

THE BUFFALO INTERNATIONAL INDUSTRIAL FAIR.

SUPPLEMENT TO HARPER'S WEEKLY, AUGUST 18, 1888.



THE ART BUILDING.

BUFFALO has taken a new step forward. So great has the old city's conservatism been in the past that whatever of actual advance she has made during recent years has not properly been held up to public attention. As a result, Buffalo's growth, which, although never spasmodic nor rapid, has yet always been steady and solid, has rarely received anything like full credit in even local estimation. Rather than advertise the city and its resources, the people have apparently been willing to let other cities think them slow and unappreciative of their advantages. All this has now been changed quickly and completely, for with the opening of the Buffalo International Industrial Fair on September 4th the city will be brought into a prominence by no means inferior to that of any place in the country.

A few Buffalo citizens of means, who saw with regret and concern the neglect of the city's opportunities, met last January to devise a way by which the value of the city as a shipping and manufacturing centre could be brought to the attention of capitalists and investors in other places. The Buffalo International Industrial Fair was decided upon as the best means to this end. Business men to the number of 120 united in giving the project a permanent foundation by subscribing stock sufficient to purchase the property of the Buffalo Driving Park, to erect the largest fair building in the world, and to offer to exhibitors cash premiums to the amount of \$100,000. The largest single subscription was for \$16,000. The man who subscribed that amount said that he stood ready to make it \$100,000 if the success of the fair depended upon it. Owing to the energy and skill with which the enterprise was managed, however, the additional subscription was not needed. It was no ordinary task that the Fair Association set itself to do. In the first place, a thick crust of Buffalo conservatism had to be broken, and after that had been done successfully the promoters of the fair were compelled to prove to cautious and practical-minded people that the idea could be successfully carried out. To a large number of Buffalo people the fair seemed to be too large an undertaking to handle, and naturally they were inclined to hold aloof from it. Like all practical-minded and 'cautious' people, they did not want to be identified with a failure. Caution always has been a conspicuous trait of Buffalo character, whether in the transaction of every-day business, the investment of capital, the erection of buildings, or in matters of science, the arts, and religion. It could hardly be expected that the traditions of a lifetime were to be overcome in a day. Perhaps the fair committees did not altogether succeed in sweeping away the cobwebs of the past, but they came as near to it as was actually necessary. They were content to let the enterprise itself do the rest.

The fair will be in all respects what Buffalo has a right to expect. It combines the chief features of both exposition and fair. So skilfully have these features been worked in together that the uninstructed visitor would for a time be puzzled to decide whether the big show were an exposition with a fair attached or a fair with an incidental exposition. The agriculturist undoubtedly would say that the fair was the overshadowing feature of the enterprise. Any one of the numerous features would make a presentable show in itself.

If there are any lingering doubts in the minds of the most cautious Buffalo people that the fair will not be a credit to the city, the following table of comparisons, showing the cash premiums offered by the fairs at St. Louis and Toronto and the New York State Fair, will prove of some interest:

N. Y. State Fair.	Toronto.	St. Louis.	Buffalo.
Horses, breeders' classes.....	\$2,092	\$5,645	\$7,995
Cattle, breeders' classes.....	2,901	3,399	6,255
Sheep, breeders' classes.....	1,680	1,949	1,350
Poultry.....	643	1,278	721
Butter and cheese.....	560	739	335
Art Department.....	78	1,070	None
Ladies' Department and Flowers....	483	1,276	2,114
Total.....	\$5,422	\$15,356	\$18,770
St. Louis, Toronto, and Empire State combined.....			\$42,548
Buffalo International alone.....			44,636

These comparisons reflect no discredit upon Toronto and St.

Louis, as the fairs in these places have heretofore been the largest in their respective countries, but rather tend to show the true significance of the new Buffalo movement. It may be expected that St. Louis will not yield her supremacy as a fair-holding city without an energetic protest and a sturdy effort to regain the lead. The tremendous rivalry that may be looked for will do more good to the farmer, the manufacturer, and the public at large than most people would think possible. The city whose fair gains the lead and keeps it will naturally secure the greatest benefit. If these figures are not enough, there are others equally interesting and convincing. A comparison of some of the premiums of the Buffalo Fair and the Ohio-Centennial Exposition at Cincinnati is as follows:

	Ohio Centennial.	Buffalo Fair.
Horses (breeders' classes).....	\$8,578	\$18,450
Cattle.....	2,930	14,405
Sheep.....	2,178	3,000
Poultry.....	2,191	2,398
Butter and cheese.....	800	1,400
Art Department.....(no premiums)		6,188
Total.....	\$23,677	\$40,926

In comparing these figures it should be borne in mind that the Cincinnati Exposition is claimed to be the largest of its kind since the Philadelphia Centennial of 1876. If Buffalo people are not proud of their fair, they certainly are hard to please. Cash premiums in other departments of the fair will bring the grand total up to \$100,000, which is a very handsome sum for the exhibitors to carry away.

The chief point of interest in the fair grounds is naturally the Main Building, which is architecturally one of the handsomest exposition buildings in the country. It

is a massive structure of brick and wood, 450 feet long and 200 feet wide. The main entrance is in the centre of the eastern front, at the base of a tower that rises 160 feet from the foundation. The lower part of the tower is of brick, and the upper part of alternating bands of clapboards and shingles. The whole effect is decidedly striking and attractive. On the ground-floor of the main tower is an open space 66 feet square, which will be used as an

of it will be under roof, however, to give space to a large and beautiful collection of works of art. When finished according to the architect's plans the main part of the building will be of colored brick. The rear extension is of wood. The entrance is a noteworthy architectural feature of the design. In size the Art Building will be 160 feet by 34 feet in the main part, and 80 feet by 50 feet in the rear extension. MUNKACSY'S "Christ before Pilate" will be a feature of the art exhibition this year. The liberal premiums offered by the managers of the fair ought to result in an exceptionally fine display of works of art. This is a department that cannot be too liberally encouraged in any exposition. The Buffalo Fair is to be congratulated on its position in this matter.

The Art Building has for its neighbor on the north the Officers' Building, which will be head-quarters for the managers of the fair, and for members of the press who visit the grounds either for business or pleasure. In the open space north and northwest of the Officers' Building a number of tents will be occupied by exhibitors who cannot find room in the Main Building or any of the other departments. The exhibits in the tents will be mainly of agricultural machinery and farming implements.

Farmers, stock-raisers, and horse-breeders will find the display on the north side of the grounds the most interesting in the fair. Here will be shown cattle, horses, swine, dogs, birds, and poultry in large numbers. The entries in each of these departments promise a remarkably fine show. The most westerly of the row of buildings on the north side will be occupied by dogs, poultry, and pigeons. Many famous prize-winners at most of the bench shows held in this country and in Europe during recent years will compete for the premiums. In the poultry exhibit the large cash prizes offered will undoubtedly bring to Buffalo the largest display of domestic fowls ever seen in this country. The pigeon show will be exceptionally fine, as special arrangements have been made for the care and exhibition of the birds.

Cattle-breeders from all parts of the country will fill the adjoining building with the finest animals obtainable. The most remarkable cow on earth—one that has given more than fifteen tons of milk in a single year—will be the chief attraction of the exhibit. She will have for companions during the fair an unusually large number of prize-winners in other fairs. The Horse Building, which stands next, is expected to attract the largest



THE BUILDINGS FOR THE EXHIBIT OF LIVE STOCK.

entrance hall to the building. After passing through the arched entrances the visitor may turn to either side, and pass through similar brick arches to view different exhibits, or mount the main stairway to the floors above. A mass of light from the arched windows of the second floor of the tower pours down over the stairway, and makes it one of the brightest and most cheerful spots in the building. The towers at the four corners of the big structure are 112 feet high and 56 feet square. The

front aisle, running lengthwise of the building, will be devoted to miscellaneous exhibits, and the rear aisle to machinery. The centre of the entire building is divided into two open courts covered by one roof. Both of these courts will be occupied by the horticultural display. The second floor will be filled with miscellaneous exhibits.

Next to the Main Building, on its north end, is the Art Building, which probably will not be wholly finished for this year's exhibition. Enough


crowd of visitors of any building on the north side, for if there is any one thing that the farmer of Western New York knows to perfection more than another it is a fine horse. Scores of the very finest animals in the United States and Canada will be on exhibition. The rivalry between Canada and the United States in this matter will be very keen, as Canada for years has had an idea that she raises the best horses on the American continent. Canada certainly does breed admirable draught horses, but whether or not they are better than the horses of New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and the Western States remains in a large measure for the Buffalo International Fair to decide. Every day during the fair the large open enclosure inside the Horse Building



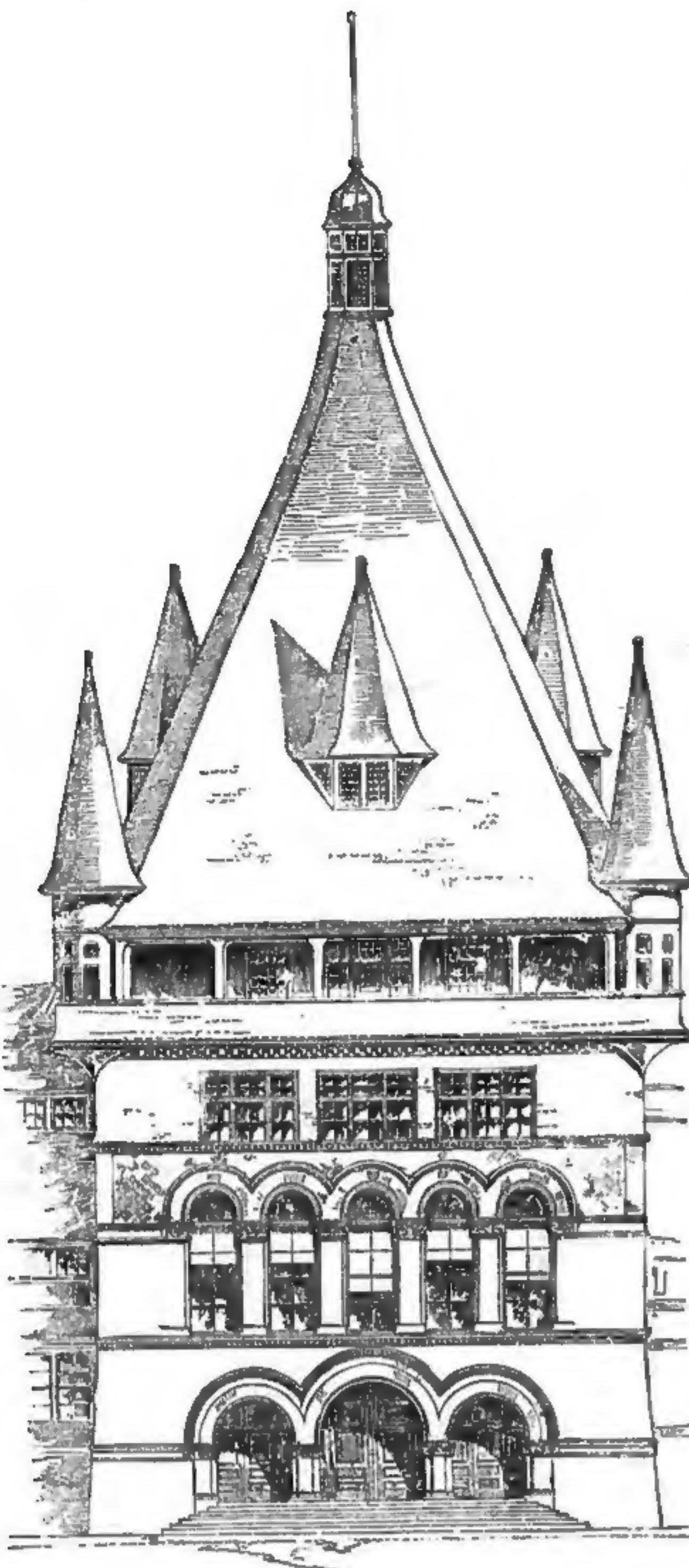
INSIDE THE HORSE ENCLOSURE.



MAIN STREET, BUFFALO, FROM THE LYON ELEVATOR.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY GEORGE A. DRESSEL.



W F THE EXHIBITION BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS.—DRAWN BY CHARLES GRAHAM.



THE TOWER OF THE MAIN BUILDING.

will be a show place and exercise ground for the best horses of the competing countries. Buffalo is naturally anxious that the United States, and particularly western New York, should win, but she will be entirely satisfied if the first premium is rightly awarded to the best horse. Even should Canada carry off the honors, it would merely stimulate the American breeder to a more lively conception of the progress of horse-breeding. Hundreds of Canadians are expected to visit the fair for the sake of the horse show alone. It will be well worth their trip. To horsemen more interested in trials of speed than in the raising of draught horses the fair will be an unusually interesting and attractive

place. In addition to the valuable cash premiums for exhibitors in the racing classes in the Horse Building, there will be prizes for speed competition on the race-track. The trotting and running races will be of a high order of excellence, if one may safely base a prediction on the past records of the horses that will compete.

The exhibition of swine in the structure adjoining the Horse Building is expected to draw numerous visitors from Missouri, Illinois, and Indiana farms, besides representatives from the pork-packing establishments at Kansas City, Cincinnati, Chicago, and elsewhere. Wool-growers from Washington County, Pennsylvania, will have a good chance to test their claims to superiority along with their rivals from New York, Ohio, and Canada.

Horse-racing will by no means be the only competitive sport offered by the managers of the fair. The world's bicycle tournament of 1888, which will be held on the fair grounds on September 4th, 6th, and 8th, will be an interesting change from the other attractions of the fair. Wheelmen from all parts of the country will be there as contestants or spectators. They will come singly, in pairs, and in clubs, to ride for State and national prizes. A good half-mile track of asphalt has been built inside the race-track for the different events. Nearly all the national, State, local, and Old World champions will be present to hunt for prizes. The New York State Division of the League of American Wheelmen will hold its annual meeting and parade on the first day of the fair. The Buffalo Bicycle Club, one of the strongest organizations of the kind in the country, has undertaken to make the wheelmen's visit to Buffalo a pleasant and memorable one in every way. Possibly a number of records will be broken at this tournament.

Prominent among other special features of the fair is the Indian Department. Notwithstanding his mighty works in science and the arts, the white man will not make a more creditable showing at this fair than the simple Indian, whose civilization goes back only a few score years. Upon receiving an invitation to make an exhibit at the fair, the Indians of the Six Nations called a meeting

of their council to decide what was best to do. After some deliberation, the council voted an appropriation of a sum of money with which to defray the expense of an exhibition of relics, and a realistic representation of the Indian's progress in civilization and industrial pursuits. The display at the fair was given in charge of a board of Indian directors, consisting of the head chiefs of the Onondaga, Seneca, Tuscarora, Oneida, Cayuga, and Mohawk nations. The display will be in effect an industrial history of the American Indian. It will be so arranged as to show first the old methods of hunting, fishing, corn pounding, wigwam building, and bow and arrow making, and next, by way of contrast, the present advanced state of Indian civilization. This modern exhibit will surprise most people, for there seems to exist a belief that the only way to civilize the Indian is to kill him. The room devoted to it will contain a representation of an Indian workshop and an Indian home. In the workshop, among other things, a young Indian printer will be at work setting type. In the evening his case will be lighted by an electric lamp. Even a Buffalo printer, who is pretty far advanced in his art, will be inclined to marvel at the anomaly of an Indian setting type by the electric light. Near this intelligent compositor, whose forefathers were murderous, scalp-hunting savages, will be other young men hard at work at the carpenter's bench, the lathe, the wagon-maker's bench, the blacksmith's forge, and the shoe-maker's bench, while close by a young Indian artist from Canada will paint pictures in oil-colors. A young Indian civil engineer, at present employed by the New York, Lake Erie, and Western Railroad Company, will be a constant visitor at this department of the fair. In the Indian home young Indian women will make fashionable garments on the sewing-machine, and will do fancy needle-work and embroidery, besides making objects of artistic value for interior decorations. Other young women will play on the piano and organ. The visitor to the Indian Department will have no lack of entertainment, for in addition to the diversion offered by the Indians in their employments and intelligent conversation, an Indian orchestra will provide a daily programme of music of a high order of merit. Two of the players in the orchestra are composers of local distinction. One was formerly a member of the orchestra of the Madison Square Theatre. All are skilled musicians.

The Indian orchestra, however, will furnish only incidental music at the fair. The principal band will be the National Hungarian Gypsy Band, from Buda-Pesth. Its chief attraction will be its gypsy music, which will be alternated with selections from European and American composers. What with horse and bicycle races, and music from bands and orchestras, there will be no lack of amusement during the day, while at night a display of fireworks will help to illuminate the grounds.

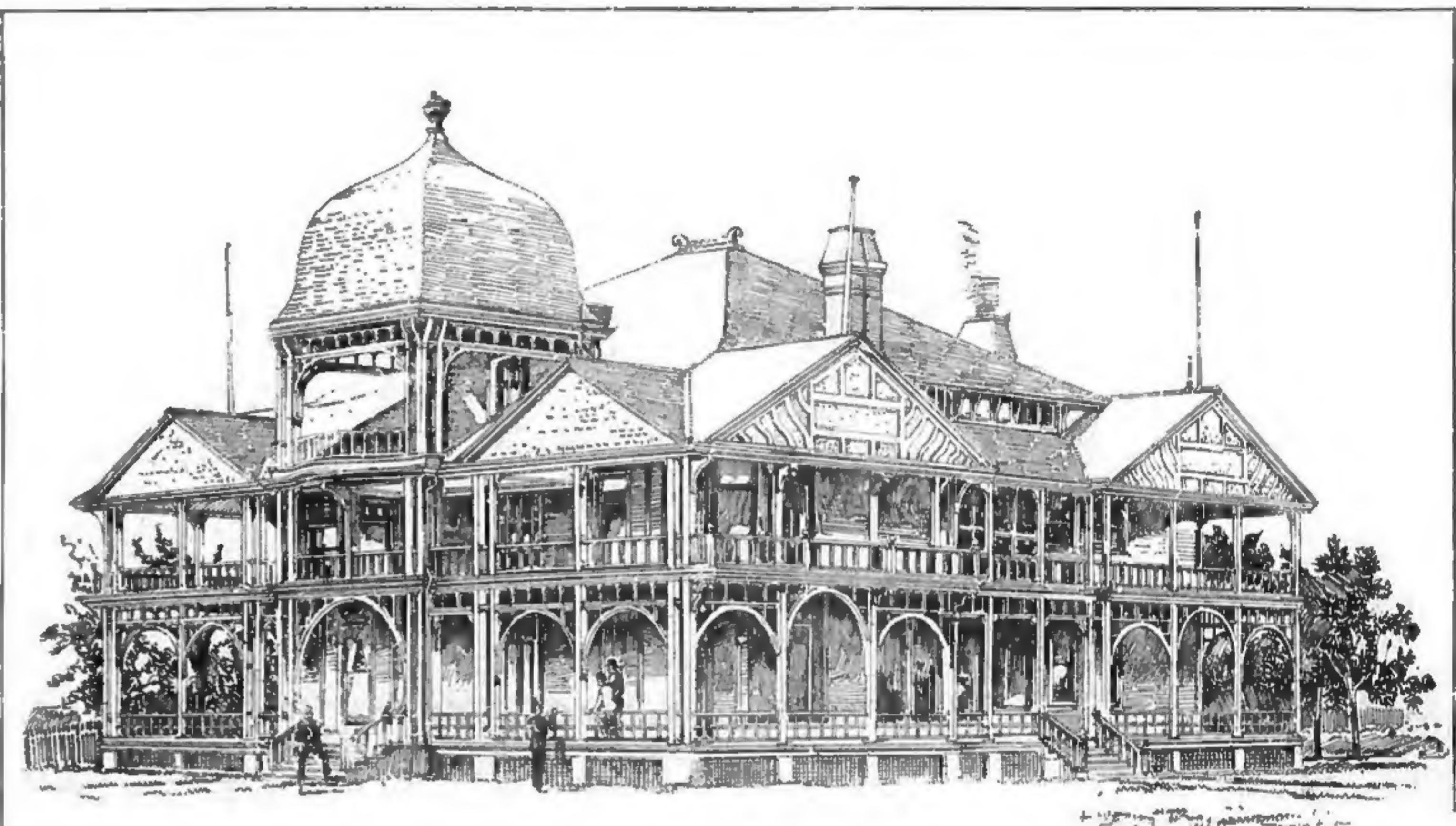
One feature of the fair worthy of special note will be its strictly temperate character. No liquors of any kind will be sold on the grounds. This is a feature that cannot be too highly commended nor too generally imitated by other fairs and expositions. The liquor privilege at this fair could have been sold for \$25,000 if the managers had not wished to keep its conduct and management above reproach. Liquor dealers are always anxious to secure at any price the right to sell drink at expositions and fairs. At the Cincinnati Exposition the competition among the dealers was so lively that the privilege was sold for something like \$30,000. The managers of the Buffalo International Fair are to be congratulated upon the strong stand that they have thus taken on the temperance question. Sceptical persons may consider this a significant indication that the fair was organized as a public benefit and not for the purpose of making money.

Visitors to the fair can vary the character of their sightseeing by trips to Niagara Falls and excursions to the many interesting places in and near Buffalo. The Falls are only about twenty miles from the fair grounds. They can be reached by double-track railroads every half-hour or so. The New York, Lake Erie, and Western and the New York Central and Hudson River railroad companies have stations at the east side of the grounds.

The stranger can spend a week or more very profitably and pleasantly in the city of Buffalo alone. For my part I cannot see why Buffalonians find it necessary to go to the sea-side or to the mountains during the summer, as the air in Buffalo is always delightfully cool and refreshing, to say nothing of the boating on Niagara River and Lake Erie, and the beautiful country resorts in the neighborhood of the city. The crowds that visit the fair from all parts of this country and Canada will find a city that will in many ways charm them and tempt them to remain. The capitalist or manufacturer will quickly appreciate the advantages of a city that has land and water transportation for

both raw material and finished product; the shipper or wholesale merchant will see the value of a location commanding the trade of a large area of rich country; and the person looking for a home will acknowledge the unsurpassed beauty of the residence streets, and the conveniences and cheapness of living. It cannot be expected that Buffalo will double her population in five or even ten years, like some of the new Western cities, but it is reasonable to suppose that she will have a steady, rapid, and solid growth from this time forward.

There seems to be a vigorous rivalry among the dozen or more railroads leading into Buffalo in the matter of big excursions and cheap rates of fare to the international show. Especially is this the case with the New York Central and the Erie roads, the agents of which are striving hard to induce all people along their lines to visit the fair. With the rates of fare and the travelling conveniences offered by these two big roads, no one can have any excuse for staying at home. The liberal policy of the railroads entering Buffalo will do much toward advancing the new era of progress that seems to be already within Buffalo's reach. Any city that has low transportation charges for all kinds of freight, and that has raw material almost at her door, is certain to grow if the citizens will give it half a chance. The cheaply run lake vessels bring grain, lumber, and other raw products of the North and West to the port of Buffalo at remarkably low rates, and in return take away coal and manufactured articles to new and constantly growing markets. The railroads do not carry quite as cheaply as the lake vessels, but they keep their tariff sufficiently low to enable Buffalo to compete successfully with New York, Boston, Philadelphia, and Baltimore in the trade of the Central and Western States. So long as Buffalo can keep a fair share of the control of this trade she need have no fear for her future. It is mainly as a trading and shipping point that Buffalo has risen to her present enviable position in the great Empire State. As might have been foreseen, her whole line of conduct has been made to conform to the requirements of this position. Her population has for many years been principally of a business character; her stores, offices, and even public buildings have been built for utility alone, and her private houses for durability and comfort. This is changing perceptibly



THE OFFICERS' BUILDING.

for the better. In no other thing is the change more noticeable than in the architecture of the newest buildings.

Like many other cities, Buffalo has come to believe that there is an actual commercial value in beauty. The best buildings in the city are those recently built. Perhaps the most creditable piece of architecture in the city is the building of the Young Men's Association, a massive pile in red brick, on the eastern side of Lafayette Square. This handsome building, which, including the land, cost \$378,000, is the centre of Buffalo's literary and scientific life. It contains the 59,000 volumes of the Buffalo Library, the Buffalo Fine Arts Academy, with its art school, the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences, and the Buffalo Historical Society. The new Music Hall, which was opened last October, after \$250,000 had been spent on it, and which will seat 2100 persons, is also a handsome specimen of the modern tendency of architectural work. The Buffalo Crematory and the Ingersoll Memorial, although by no means pretentious, are yet worth more than cursory attention. There are several new buildings on Main Street and other business thoroughfares that are a credit to the city. One of the most conspicuous buildings in the city is the State Asylum for the Insane, near the Park. It was designed by RICHARDSON, whose early death is nowhere more deeply deplored than in those cities which possess monuments of his genius. Buffalo is fortunate in having not only a specimen of the great architect's work, but also one of his pupils, who in a single year has become one of the city's leading designers. In common with other large places, Buffalo is unfortunate in her City Building. From an architectural point of view, the big pile is a woful mistake. Oddly enough, it is from the rear that the best view of the building is obtained, and that is the result of location, and not of architectural lines or material effects. Buffalo could do much better now, had she the money that the building cost—\$1,500,000—to spend over again. Taken as a whole, the most creditable buildings in Buffalo are the private houses that line both sides of the forty miles of asphalt streets. All styles of architecture are represented, from the plain, old-fashioned square box to the modern Queen Anne or Dutch adaptation. Each house has plenty of well-kept lawn all around it and a strip of tree-shaded grass several feet beyond the sidewalk line. The effect is essentially suburban, notwithstanding the location of the houses in the heart of the city. These streets and houses are a surprise to the visitor, as nothing that he has read in the Buffalo newspapers has prepared him for the charming sight.

It is no more than right to assume that this is due to the modesty of the newspapers concerning the virtues and delights of their city. The papers are no doubt so busy with news and public affairs that they have little time left in which to describe the beauties and advantages of life in Buffalo. Recent improvements in the city papers show with unmistakable clearness the new forward movement pointed out by the organization of the International Fair. To the student of current affairs the newspaper is an infallible index of a city's character. Buffalo may feel assured that in this matter she will always be admirably represented. The thoughtful Buffalonian will find in the outlook just now every reason for congratulation, for in the busy streets, the recent progress in building, and the founding of a permanent annual international fair, a rich and prosperous future is within easy reach.

WILLIAM WILLARD HOWARD.



THE NEW MUSIC HALL, BUFFALO.